

Message Text

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ORIGIN AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-13 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02
SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 L-03 ACDA-07 DODE-00
NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 /079 R

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY MADRID NIACT IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE
AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY GABORONE IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 113005

MADRID FOR S/P LAKE IN VP'S DELEGATION

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: RH, PFOR, UK

SUBJECT: CALLAGHAN LETTERS RE RHODESIAN INCURSION INTO
BOTSWANA

MAPUTO FOR AMBASSADOR YOUNG'S DELEGATION AND EMBASSY

1. FOLLOWING ARE TEXTS OF PRIME MINISTER CALLAGHAN'S
MAY 17 LETTERS TO PRESIDENT KHAMA AND IAN SMITH CONCERNING
THE RHODESIAN MILITARY INCURSION INTO BOTSWANA. THE
BRITISH INTEND TO GIVE COPIES OF THESE MESSAGES TO THE
SOUTH AFRICAN DELEGATION IN VIENNA.
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2. BEGIN TEXT CALLAGHAN-KHAMA:
QTE I WAS MOST CONCERNED TO LEARN OF YESTERDAY'S ATTACK
BY RHODESIAN SECURITY FORCES ON A UNIT OF THE BOTSWANA
DEFENCE FORCE AT MAPOKO.

QTE YOU HAVE OUR SUPPORT IN THIS GRAVE MATTER. ONLY ON

SUNDAY I SENT MR. SMITH A MESSAGE WARNING HIM OF THE SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES THAT COULD RESULT FROM ATTACKS ON ZAMBIA. I HAVE NOW SENT HIM A FURTHER MESSAGE DEPLORING THIS VIOLATION OF BOTSWANA'S TERRITORIAL INTEGRITY AND HAVE ASKED HIM TO DESIST. I HAVE STRESSED THAT ANY OTHER INCIDENTS OF THIS KIND ARE BOUND TO PREJUDICE THE

CHANCES OF SUCCESS FOR OUR CURRENT ATTEMPTS TO ACHIEVE A POLITICAL SETTLEMENT. UNQTE.

3. BEGIN TEXT CALLAGHAN-SMITH:

QTE AIR VICE MARSHAL HAWKINS YESTERDAY TRANSMITTED TO YOU MY MESSAGE ABOUT THE SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES WHICH WOULD RESULT FROM YOUR LAUNCHING STRIKES AGAINST GUERRILLA BASES IN ZAMBIA. I WAS SHOCKED TO LEARN, SO SOON AFTER THE DESPATCH OF THAT MESSAGE, THAT RHODESIAN SECURITY FORCES HAD LAUNCHED AN ATTACK ON A DEFENCE FORCE BASE IN NORTH EAST BOTSWANA.

QTE. THIS ACTION HAS COME IN THE WAKE OF PRESIDENT KAUNDA'S PRESS CONFERENCE EARLY YESTERDAY ANNOUNCING THAT ZAMBIA WAS NOW "IN A STATE OF WAR" WITH RHODESIA AND ON THE FIRST DAY OF THE MAPUTO CONFERENCE. IT HAS SERIOUSLY AFFECTED THE CLIMATE FOR THE CURRENT EFFORTS TO NEGOTIATE A POLITICAL SETTLEMENT.

QTE THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT ARE READY TO PRESS AHEAD WITH OUR EFFORTS TO ACHIEVE A PEACEFUL SOLUTION. INCIDENTS OF THIS KIND CANNOT FAIL TO JEOPARDIZE THE CHANCES OF CONFIDENTIAL

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SUCCESS. THEY WOULD MAKE IT VERY DIFFICULT FOR THE CONSULTATIVE GROUP TO VISIT, OR TO REMAIN IN, SALISBURY. ONCE AGAIN, THEREFORE, I ASK YOU MOST URGENTLY TO EXERCISE RESTRAINT, IF YOU WISH THE CURRENT INITIATIVE TO SUCCEED. UNQTE. CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 17-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: JSDAVIDOW:SBA
Enclosure: n/a
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Line Count: 102
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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